South Carolina
DHEC
Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201

March 7, 1995

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hospital Administrators

FROM: Alan Samuels, Director
Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: Conditions which will allow provider-wide partial exceptions to the requirements of Regulation 61-16, Standards for Licensing Hospitals and Institutional General Infirmaries, Section 601.5.

1. Section 601.5.A., requires that "...A minimum medical record shall include the following information:
1. Admission Record: An admission record must be prepared for each patient and must contain the following information, when obtainable: ..."

We have determined that an alternative standard will be acceptable. All hospitals providing obstetric services will be required to meet either the standard outlined in R61-16, Section 601.5.A., or as alternative:

"...A minimum medical record shall include the following information:
1. Admission Record: An admission record must be prepared for each patient except newborns and must contain the following information, when obtainable: ..."

2. Section 601.5.B., outlines the requirements for minimum content of the newborn medical record. We have determined that an alternative standard will be acceptable, and this alternative is indicated by underlining in the following text:

B. Newborn Records:

1. Contingent upon the availability of pertinent information in the prenatal records of the mother, newborn records shall include the following:
a. History of hereditary conditions in mother's and/or father's family;
b. First day of the last menstrual period (L.M.P.) and estimated day of confinement (E.D.C.);

c. Mother's blood group and RH type -- evidence of sensitization and/or immunization (such as, administration of anti-D hyperimmune globulin);

d. Serological test for syphilis (including dates performed);

e. Number, duration and outcome of previous pregnancies, with dates;

f. Maternal disease (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, pre-eclampsia, infections);

g. Drugs taken during pregnancy;

h. Results of measurements of fetal maturity and well-being (e.g., lung maturity and ultrasonography);

2. All newborn records shall include the following:

a. Drugs administered during labor and delivery;

b. Duration of ruptured membranes and labor, including length of second stage;

c. Method of delivery, including indications for operative or instrumental interference;

d. Complications of labor and delivery (e.g., hemorrhage or evidence of fetal distress), including a representative strip of the fetal ECG if recorded;

e. Description of placenta at delivery, including number of umbilical vessels;

f. Estimated amount and description of amniotic fluid;

g. Apgar scores at 1 and 5 minutes of age. Description of resuscitations, if required, detailed description of abnormalities and problems occurring from birth until transfer to the special care nursery or the referral facility;

h. Test results and date specimen was collected for PKU and other metabolic screening tests, in accordance with R61-80, Neonatal Screening for Inborn Metabolic Errors and Hemoglobinopathies. (Exempt only when parents object because of religious convictions; then file copy of executed "Statement of Religious Objection Form, DHEC #1804, with newborn record.)

AS:RB

cc: Douglas E. Bryant
Alice Truluck
Karen Reeves
Elin Holgren